

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (currently amended) A crystalline choline ascorbate.
2. (original) A crystalline choline ascorbate as claimed in claim 1 in the form of crystals free from water of crystallization.
3. (currently amended) A crystalline choline ascorbate as claimed in claim 1, wherein the diffraction lines at  $d = 3.80 \text{ \AA}$  and  $4.55 \text{ \AA}$  are most intense in the range between 3.40 and  $4.70 \text{ \AA}$  in the  $2\theta$  X-ray powder diffractogram.
4. (original) A crystalline choline ascorbate as claimed in claim 3, wherein the intensity ratio of the diffraction lines at  $d = 3.80 \text{ \AA}$  and  $d = 4.55 \text{ \AA}$  is at least 0.5.
5. (original) A crystalline choline ascorbate as claimed in claim 3, wherein the intensity ratio of the diffraction lines at  $d = 3.80 \text{ \AA}$  and  $d = 4.67 \text{ \AA}$  is at least 0.4.
6. (currently amended) A process for preparing crystalline choline ascorbate by reacting ascorbic acid with trimethylamine and ethylene oxide, which comprises carrying out the reaction in the temperature range from  $-105^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $405^{\circ}\text{C}$ .
7. (original) A process as claimed in claim 6, wherein the reaction is carried out in a water-miscible organic solvent.
8. (original) A process as claimed in claim 7, wherein choline ascorbate is crystallized in the solvent used for the reaction.
9. (original) A choline ascorbate obtainable by a process defined according to claim 6.
10. (currently amended) Drugs The use of comprising the choline ascorbate claimed in  
defined according to claim 1 for producing drugs.
11. (currently amended) Additives in foods, additives in animal feeds or food supplements

VOELKEL et al., Ser. No. 10/076,514

comprising The use of the choline ascorbate claimed defined according to in claim 1 as additive in foods, animal feeds, or as a component in food supplements.

(B)  
Amal

---